

--The objective set by the invention is achieved with an intervertebral disk prosthesis or an artificial vertebral body, having the features of the disclosed embodiments.—

On page 1, lines 33-34, the sentence, "Further advantageous configurations of the invention are characterised in the dependent claims." was replaced by the sentence:

--Further advantageous configurations of the invention are disclosed herein.—

*page 4*

On ~~page 2~~, prior to line 16, the phrase -- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS—was inserted.

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10.19.06*

On page 5, prior to line 5, the phrase -- DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION—was inserted.

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fails to disclose or make obvious an intervertebral implant comprising a jacket constructed as bellows having a specific spring rate, the jacket further having a plurality of bellows inserted into one another.

The closest prior art is Zacouto (6,692,495 B1). Zacouto discloses an intervertebral implant comprising bellows surrounded by "one or more intermediate elements (20)" (col. 4, lines 32-40). In Fig. 18, the "one or more intermediate elements"